

I CLAIM:

1. A method of playing a poker based game comprising:  
providing a player an option to buy one or more pre-established cards such that  
a number of bought cards is less than a total number of cards necessary to form a  
complete poker hand, said option occurring prior to, or during, a game session; and  
awarding the player one or more payouts based on a rank of a final poker hand.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the option occurs in response to the player  
holding one or more cards to a royal flush.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein if the player accepts the option, the player buys  
one or more additional cards which in combination with the held cards forms four cards  
to the royal flush.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the option occurs in response to the player being  
dealt a pair.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the option is limited to a pair of jacks, queens,  
kings or aces.
6. The method of claim 4 wherein if the player accepts the option, the player must  
hold a kicker in addition to the pair and the player buys a third card having a rank the  
same as the rank of the pair.
7. The method of claim 6 further comprising generating a random card rank and  
suit and comparing said random card rank and suit with a rank and suit of the kicker.
8. The method of claim 7 further comprising awarding the player a jackpot based  
on obtaining a four of a kind in combination with the random card rank and suit

matching the rank and suit of the kicker.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the option occurs before any cards have been dealt.
10. The method of claim 9 wherein if the player accepts the option, the player buys one or more Aces.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein a fee for the one or more Aces is equivalent to a single wager unit.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein a fee for the one or more Aces is equivalent to an initial wager amount.
13. The method of claim 1 wherein the method is facilitated by an electronic gaming device.
14. A method of playing a poker based wagering game comprising:
  - dealing a player five or more random cards;
  - said player holding one or more of the five or more random cards;
  - if said one or more held cards are common to a pre-established poker hand, providing the player an opportunity to buy one or more cards;
  - if said player elects to buy the one or more cards, replacing one or more of the non-held cards with cards necessary for partial completion of the pre-established poker hand such that the player has a higher probability of successfully drawing the pre-established poker hand after buying the one or more cards than before buying the one or more cards;
  - randomly replacing each of the player's cards not common to the pre-established poker hand; and

awarding said player a payout if the player obtains the pre-established poker hand.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the pre-established poker hand is a royal flush.
16. The method of claim 14 further comprising the player having to hold a kicker along with the one or more held cards.
17. The method of claim 14 wherein the pre-established poker hand is four of a kind.
18. The method of claim 14 wherein the method is facilitated by an electronic gaming device.
19. A method of playing a poker based wagering game comprising:
  - providing five random cards;
  - if said five random cards include one or more pairs, providing a player an option to place a wager;
  - if said player elects to place the wager, said player having to hold one pair and one additional dealt card;
  - providing a fourth card having a rank equal to a rank of the held pair;
  - providing a random fifth card; and
  - awarding said player a payout if a final poker hand is a four of a kind or a full house.
20. The method of claim 19 further comprising means for randomly generating a card rank and suit for comparison with a rank and suit of the one additional held card.
21. The method of claim 20 wherein the means for randomly generating the single card is a segmented rotatable wheel.
22. The method of claim 21 further comprising paying a jackpot in response to a

player obtaining a four of a kind and the randomly generated card rank and suit matching the rank and suit of the additional held card.

23. The method of claim 19 wherein the wager is in a range of one to nine times the amount of an initial wager.

24. The method of claim 19 wherein the pair must equal or rank better than jacks.

25. The method of claim 19 wherein the method is facilitated by an electronic gaming device.

26. A method of playing a poker based wagering game comprising:  
dealing five random cards;  
if said five random cards include one or more pairs, providing a player an option to buy a card;  
if said player elects to buy a card, said player having to hold a pair and a kicker;  
providing the bought card, said bought card having a rank the same as a rank of the held pair;  
providing a random fifth card; and  
awarding said player a payout if the player's final poker hand is a four of a kind or a full house.

27. The method of claim 26 further comprising means for randomly generating a card rank and suit for comparison with a rank and suit of the kicker.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the means for randomly generating the card rank and suit is a segmented wheel.

29. The method of claim 27 further comprising paying a jackpot in response to a player obtaining a four of a kind and the randomly generated card rank and suit

matching the rank and suit of the kicker.

30. The method of claim 26 wherein the wager is one to nine times the amount of an initial total wager.

31. The method of claim 26 wherein the held pair must equal or rank better than jacks.

32. The method of claim 26 wherein the method is facilitated by an electronic gaming device.

33. A method of playing a poker based wagering game comprising:
- providing five random cards;
  - if said five random cards include one or more pairs equal to or better than jacks,
  - providing the player an option to place a wager;
  - if said player elects to place the wager, said player having to hold one pair equal to or better than jacks and one additional dealt card;
  - providing a fourth card having a rank equal to a rank of the held pair;
  - providing a random fifth card and generating a random card rank and suit;
  - comparing the random card rank and suit to the one additional held card;
  - awarding said player a first payout if the player's final poker hand comprises four of a kind or a full house; and
  - awarding said player a second payout if the player's final poker hand comprises a four of a kind and the random card rank and suit matches a rank and suit of the one additional held card.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein generating a random card rank and suit is accomplished by a spinning segmented wheel, each segment depicting a card rank and suit.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein the second payout is associated with a

progressive jackpot.

36. A gaming device comprising:

a processor in communication with a random number generator and display;

one or more player interfaces;

said random number generator for generating a display of five random cards;

said one or more player interfaces allowing a player to hold one or more of the five displayed random cards such that if said five displayed cards include one or more pairs, said processor providing the player an opportunity to place a wager;

if said player elects to place the wager, said player having to hold one of the pairs and one additional card and said processor causing a fourth card of the same rank as the pair to be displayed;

said processor causing a randomly generated fifth card to be displayed; and

said processor awarding said player a payout if the player's final poker hand is a four of a kind or a full house.

37. The gaming device of claim 36 further comprising the random number generator generating a card rank and suit for comparison with a rank and suit of the one additional held card.

38. The gaming device of claim 37 wherein the card rank and suit is displayed on said display.

39. The gaming device of claim 37 wherein the card rank and suit of each card in a standard deck of cards appears on a segmented wheel displayed by said display.

40. The gaming device of claim 37 wherein the processor causes a payout in response to the player receiving a four of a kind and the randomly generated card rank and suit matching the rank and suit of the one additional held card.

41. A method of playing a poker based game comprising:
  - providing a player with an option to buy one or more known cards;
  - dealing the player a random number of cards which in combination with any one or more bought cards forms a complete poker hand;
  - allowing the player to hold or fold each of the cards forming the complete poker hand;
  - replacing folded cards with new random cards; and
  - awarding the player a payout based on a rank of a final poker hand.
42. The method of claim 41 wherein if the player accepts the option, the player buys one Ace.
43. The method of claim 42 wherein a fee for the one Ace is equivalent to a single wager unit.
44. The method of claim 41 wherein a fee for the one Ace is equivalent to an initial wager amount.
45. A method of playing a poker based game comprising:
  - prior to dealing any cards, providing a player with an option to buy an Ace;
  - dealing the player four random cards in addition to the Ace;
  - allowing the player to hold or fold each of the five cards;
  - replacing each folded card with a new random card; and
  - awarding the player a payout based on a rank of a final poker hand.
46. The method of claim 45 wherein a fee for the one Ace is equivalent to a single wager unit.
47. The method of claim 45 wherein a fee for the one Ace is equivalent to an initial wager amount.